

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STOCKH 00976 101216Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----055445 101220Z /13
O 101032Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3252

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STADIS////////

EXDIS FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY VEST: EUR

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: BEXP, SW
SUBJ: CLOSING OF STOCKHOLM TRADE CENTER AND RESTRUCTURING OF
COMMERCIAL SECTION

REF: (A) STATE 56345, (B) STOCKHOLM 525, (C) 77 STATE 271550

1. AFTER YOUR AND DEPUTY SECRETARY CHRISTOPHER'S ASSURANCE OF
HELP (REF C) IN MEETING THE EFFECTS OF TRADE CENTER CLOSURE
HERE, I CONFESS I WAS GREATLY DISAPPOINTED TO READ REF A WHICH
OFFERED NOTHING TO MEET THE PROBLEMS.

2. I RECALL THAT DURING MY INITIAL BRIEFINGS I WAS NOT TOLD
THE TRADE CENTER WAS UP FOR CLOSING. I WAS TOLD ABOUT, AND
STILL STRONGLY BELIEVE IN, THE PRESIDENT'S INSTRUCTIONS TO
PROMOTE TRADE. I ALSO FELT, AND FEEL, THAT I HAVE A DUTY TO
MAINTAIN EMBASSY MORALE, INCLUDING AMONG OUR FINE SWEDISH
EMPLOYEES. I FELT THAT WE COULD ADJUST SOMEWAY TO THE CLOSING
OF THE TRADE CENTER IF WE COULD MAINTAIN A STRONG COMMERCIAL
SECTION DOWNTOWN, AND COULD PROTECT MORALE IF WE COULD AVOID
LARGE SCALE DISMISSALS. THE DEPARTMENT'S CABLE HAS TURNED
ME DOWN COLD ON THOSE HOPES.

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PAGE 02 STOCKH 00976 101216Z

3. TO HELP PUT THE DEPARTMENT'S PROPOSALS IN FOCUS, I URGE A
COMPARISON BE MADE OF COMMERCIAL REPRESENTATION IN TWO OTHER
EFTA NEUTRALS, SWITZERLAND AND AUSTRIA. I WISH YOU WOULD
ASK FOR THOSE FIGURES AND COMPARE THEM WITH WHAT IS PROPOSED
FOR STOCKHOLM.

4. I FEEL THAT TO DO MY JOB HERE I NEED A COMMERCIAL SECTION DOWNTOWN (THE CHANCERY IS DEFINITELY NOT SUITABLE EVEN IF WE HAD ENOUGH SPACE, WHICH WE DO NOT, AND I NEED THE POSITIONS WE REQUESTED. I DO NOT BELIEVE WHAT WAS OFFERED IN REF A IS ENOUGH, AND IF IT TAKES ASKING MORE MONEY FROM CONGRESS, I AM GLAD TO HELP IN THAT ENDEAVOR.

5. I ASK THAT THE DEPARTMENT'S POSITON BE RECONSIDERED AND I LOOK FORWARD TO DISCUSSING THIS WITH YOU NEXT WEEK.
KENNEDY-MINOTT

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NNN

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